



GRAND PARK FACT SHEET

Grand Park spans four distinct blocks in the heart of downtown Los Angeles from The Music Center to City Hall. Blocks One and Two (from Grand Avenue to Hill Street) will open with public inaugural festivities on July 28 and 29, 2012. Blocks Three and Four (from Hill Street to Spring Street) will open in the fall of 2012.

Park Locations

Blocks One and Two include:

Grand Avenue Terraces – New pedestrian-friendly steps and ADA-accessible ramps create a series of broad terraces leading down into the park. The terraces can be used for al fresco dining, event seating, meeting enclaves and general gatherings. The new stairs and paths provide a dramatic view and physical connections to Grand Park from Grand Avenue about 30 feet above. These terraces lead down to the Fountain Plaza, which offers a view of the restored fountain.

Arthur J. Will Memorial Fountain – An historic yet previously hidden icon in Los Angeles, the 1960s-era Arthur J. Will Memorial Fountain is newly renovated and now the focal point of Grand Park. The fountain was restored and reenergized to create an interactive gathering place with different programs that produce various water shows with synchronized colored lights. The fountain's new crowd-pleasing features include a 50-foot spray at the central bowl and the addition of a quarter-inch deep splash pad with circular patterns of interactive jets that encourage water play. Park visitors also can enjoy the fountain's light show in the evening from the surrounding overlook or while passing through to the Metro Civic Center station, a parking lot or an alternate destination outside the park.

Olive Court – Olive Court includes 16 new olive trees as well as the original historic benches and speaker poles, which have been restored to their original condition. This area is designed to serve as a gathering place for events such as art or book fairs, plant sales and small community events that might be held in conjunction with performances at the adjacent Performance Lawn.

Performance Lawn/Stage – Located towards Hill Street and just east of Olive Court, the Performance Lawn and stage are designed to accommodate smaller musical performances, art shows and other cultural events.

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Blocks Three and Four include:

Community Terrace – The Community Terrace welcomes individuals, families and groups to hold independent events or to relax, read, enjoy the sun or people watch. The historic Court of Flags was relocated to the east in the Flag Garden and enlivens the eastern edge of the Terrace.

Broadway Steps –The Broadway Steps occupy the eastern edge of Block Three and provide an ADA-accessible transition between the Community Terrace and Broadway. Along the paths are various bleacher-like seating areas for relaxing in the park or watching an event along Broadway or the Event Lawn to the east.

Event Lawn – The Event Lawn faces City Hall and is designed to be the site of major public events and activities, including music festivals and New Year’s Eve celebrations. The lawn’s northeastern corner houses a dog run, avidly sought by downtown residents, while the southern edge is designed for farmers markets or gourmet food trucks.

Park Features

Programming – Designed as a dynamic, inclusive environment, Grand Park will feature community events, cultural experiences, festivals, holiday celebrations and many other activities that engage and attract visitors from all communities in Los Angeles County. Grand Park spaces can also be rented by public and private parties for events and activities.

Landscape – The park was designed as a diverse collection of plantings from around the globe. With nearly 140 different species of plants, the park’s landscape intertwines native plantings and drought-tolerant species organized together into 24 gardens representing six Floristic Kingdoms. Many existing trees were preserved and now are complemented by the addition of more than 300 new trees planted throughout Grand Park.

Park Pavilions – Sleek open-air pavilions serve as gateways at either end of the park. The western building is the new home of Starbucks, an ATM, as well as restrooms and support services. The eastern building could serve as a party pavilion for small or large parties and also houses a green room and other back-of-the-house facilities for large events on the Event Lawn.

Park Furnishings – Park designers Rios Clementi Hale Studios created unique and striking movable furniture for Grand Park. Park visitors will have the flexibility to move and arrange furniture to accommodate their needs. Chairs, benches and tables in a bold shade of magenta dot the park and contrast vividly with its green topography.

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Signature Colors – The park’s signature colors of magenta and green provide a counterpoint to the neutral colors of the surrounding buildings. The magenta corresponds to the foliage throughout the gardens and acts as a consistent “bloom” throughout the year. The new park buildings are predominantly green, allowing them to blend in with the foliage.

Monuments – There are a number of monuments located throughout the park, including statues of George Washington and Christopher Columbus.

Signage – The park’s vibrantly colored signage totems greet visitors with lanterns that are transparent during the day and animated and glowing at night. These totems introduce Grand Park as “the park for everyone,” welcoming visitors in 25 different languages.

Public Art – The park features several prominent locations for future installation of publicly-engaging outdoor sculptures. The park’s ambitious public art program also contemplates artist workshop programming and outreach, curated seasonal installations and signature gardens.

Park Creative Team

Grand Avenue Authority – Chaired by Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina, the Grand Avenue Authority is a Joint Powers Authority established to create and implement the vision for Grand Park and commercial developments on Grand Avenue. Membership in this multi-government body includes Los Angeles County Supervisor Molina, chair; Los Angeles City Councilmember Jan Perry, vice chair; Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer William T Fujioka, secretary; Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Association Chief Executive Officer Christine Essel, member; and State of California Secretary of Business, Housing and Transportation, ex officio member (currently vacant).

Related Companies – The Grand Avenue developer provided \$50 million in pre-paid rent for ground leases that allowed the county to transform the space into a vibrant outdoor gathering place for all.

Rios Clementi Hale Studios – Architecture and landscape architect Rios Clementi Hale Studios was the driving force behind the thematic design and layout of the park with an eye to transforming the existing public space into a connected and iconic urban park.

Charles Pankow Builders – General contractor Charles Pankow Builders worked hand-in-hand with the county to oversee all aspects of construction and design execution, bringing the park’s design to life.

Sussman/Prejza – Environmental graphic design firm Sussman/Prejza developed the park entrance signs and designed monument signs and garden markers to reflect the cultural diversity of Los Angeles and define Grand Park as “the park for everyone.”

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Fluidity Design Consultants– Fountain design consultants Fluidity oversaw the restoration of the Arthur J. Will Memorial Fountain, including the creation of a new interactive water features.

The Music Center – Under the direction of the county, The Music Center is responsible for all operations and programming for the park. The Music Center will ensure the park is an inclusive environment with events and activities appropriate for an outdoor setting and with appeal to a wide cross-section of county residents and visitors.

For more information, visit <http://www.GrandParkLA.org>

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